Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071605 ORIGIN EB-08

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:ETRD, PO

SUBJECT:BILATERAL TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS.

REFS: A) WARSAW 2082 B) STATE 47634

1. APPRECIATE POLISH WILLINGNESS TO MEET IN WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF APRIL 18, AS SUGGESTED BY US. HOWEVER, AS RESULT OF UNDERSTANDING REACHED DURING MARCH MEETING OF GATT TEXTILES COMMITTEE (TC), WE NOW BELIEVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TC WILL ALMOST UNDOUBTEDLY RECONVENE IN GENEVA DURING WEEK OF APRIL 18 TO CONTINUE CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE OF THE MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT. TC MEETING, WHICH COULD EASILY CONTINUE FOR THREE WEEKS, WILL REQUIRE PRESENCE IN GENEVA OF NEARLY ALL US OFFICIALS WHO WOULD MEET WITH POLES FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS.

2. AS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH POLES, US MOST URGENT CONCERN IS WITH IMPORTS OF CATEGORY 120 (MENS AND BOYS WOOL SUITS); POLISH CY 1976 SHIPMENTS WERE 78,000 UNITS. THIS IS A VERY SENSITIVE CATEGORY AND 1976 POLISH SHIPMENTS APPROACH THE LEVEL (82,500 UNITS/YEAR) AT

WHICH US UNILATERALLY TOOK RESTRAINT ACTION AGAINST ANOTHER SUPPLIER UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF MFA DURING DECEMBER 1976. IF LATER DATA SHOW POLISH SHIPMENTS IN CATEGORY 120 CONTINUING TO RISE, US MAY WELL HAVE TO TAKE SIMILAR ACTION AGAINST POLISH IMPORTS.

- 3. BECAUSE OF PROBABLE TC MEETING AND NEED TO CONSIDER CATEGORY 120 SHIPMENTS, WE SUGGEST THAT, RATHER THAN MEET IN WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF APRIL 18, US AND POLISH REPS MEET IN GENEVA DURING WEEK WHEN TC IS RECONVENED (MOST PROBABLY WEEK OF APRIL 18) TO DISCUSS, AND HOPEFULLY TO AGREE ON, APPROPRIATE LEVEL FOR CATEGORY 120. FULL SCALE DISCUSSIONS, COVERING ALL PHASES OF TEXTILE TRADE, COULD THEN BE HELD WEEK OF MAY 16 IN WASHINGTON, THE EARLIEST TIME WHEN ALL INTERESTED US OFFICIALS COULD BE PRESENT.
- 4. PLEASE INFORM POLES OF ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES AND NEW SUGGESTIONS FOR TIMING AND TOPICS FOR TALKS. WE REGRET CHANGES, BUT TIMING OF TC MEETING IS NOT IN OUR HANDS.
 CHRISTOPHER

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